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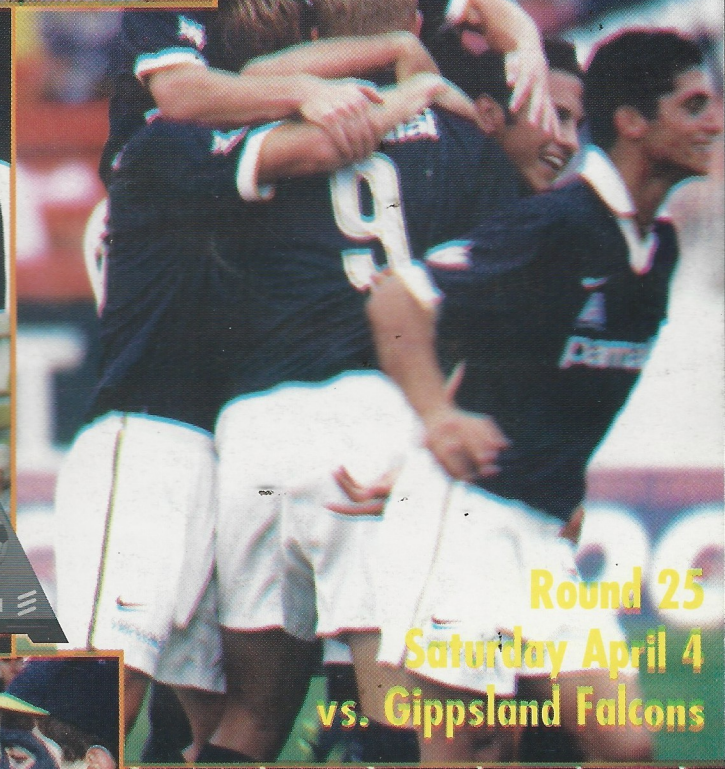

Round 25
Saturday April 4
vs. Gippsland Falcons

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Email: www.carltonsoccer.com.au

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Lou Sticca (General Manager)
John Valmorbida
Robert Shannon

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Senior Coach	Eddie Krncevic
Assistant Coach	Fab Incantalupo
Team Manager	Michael Watson
Fitness Advisor	Darren Welch

Academy Team Officials

Co-Ordinator	Jeff Olver
Assistant Coach	Ralf Barba
Team Manager	Ian Perri

Colts Team Officials

Coach	John Di Quattro
Team Manager	Danielle Parnis

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Marketing	Jerome Lyford
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Angelo Sticca
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0419 341 275

Contributor: Tony Ising

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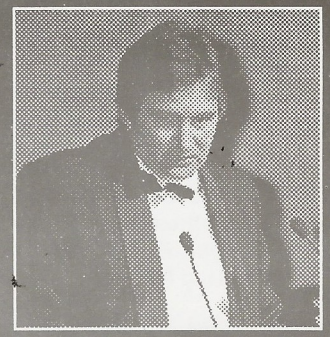
From The Chair

Jack Reilly - Chairman of the Carlton Soccer Club



Welcome to the final home game of the league season for the Carlton Soccer Club as it takes on the Gippsland Falcons tonight at Olympic Park.

Quite simply, a Carlton victory will guarantee a place in the finals which kick off on the weekend of April 18-19. In fact depending on results at other venues this weekend, even a draw tonight can ensure that Carlton will be part of the finals, making history as the first club to ever contest the finals in its first season in the Ericsson Cup.

It has been a tremendous inaugural season, an historic journey by a club which has shown that professionalism is something which can be achieved both on and off the field.

I look forward to Carlton playing in the finals and I have every confidence that our side is good enough to go all the way. And as we approach the finals let me remind you of the tremendous Carlton Academy side which has already secured a position in the finals of the Youth League.

I take this opportunity to thank the players, coaching staff, management, support staff and everyone associated with the club for their tremendous work and dedication towards the realisation of a dream.

And most of all thanks to YOU, our supporters, for finding voice and cheering on the side in this the first season of an historic new era in Australian Soccer called the Carlton Soccer Club.

(left) *Carlton's Simon Colosimo and Vince Grella were two standout performers in the recent Olyroo clean sweep of Brazil*

Cover: A celebration of the season
Image by: Robert Cianflone Photography

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A PASSING GLANCE AT TODAY'S OPPONENT

GIPPSLAND FALCONS

Current position: **11th**	Player to watch: **Archie Thompson**
Goals +: **26**	Last result: **1-1 home draw with Sydney United**
Goals -: **32**	Coach: **Frank Arok**
Top scorer: **Archie Thompson**	Home ground: **Falcons Park**

Crunch time for the Carlton Soccer Club on the occasion of this visit from Frank Arok's Gippsland Falcons.

The Falcons are out of finals contention but can still have a big say in the final placings especially when it hosts Adelaide City next week in the final round.

Today the Falcons will be as tough as ever to overcome. Arok has instilled a fighting quality in the Falcons which has seen many a highly fancied side lose out to the physical presence and perserverance of the Latrobe Valley outfit.

Archie Thompson is one of the players of the future and will be a handful for the Carlton defence, whilst the speed of MacNicol on the wing should also prove to be a headache for Douglas and co.

Frank Arok will be looking for a victory in his penultimate match as an Ericsson Cup coach and no doubt will fire his side up for this big clash.

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Weekly round-up of tables, fixtures, statistics

Around the league

ROUND 24 RESULTS

SOUTH MELBOURNE 3 (Boutsianis 13, Coveny 53, Anastasiadis 62)
PERTH 3 (Kalogeracos 65, 69, 85)

GIPPSLAND 1 (Osman 79m)
SYDNEY UTD 1 (Saad 54m)

NEWCASTLE BREAKERS 0
MELBOURNE KNIGHTS 0

MARCONI 2
ADELAIDE CITY 0

CANBERRA COSMOS 1
WOLLONGONG CITY 3

ADELAIDE SHARKS 0
CARLTON 3 (Vlahos 14,80, Markovski 86)

UTS OLYMPIC 3 (Poimer 2, Carle)
BRISBANE STRIKERS 0

ROUND 26 (final round)

Canberra Cosmos v Perth Glory	7.00pm Mon 13 Apr
Gippsland v Adelaide City	7.00pm Sun 12 Apr
UTS Olympic v Newcastle Breakers	7.00pm Sun 12 Apr
West Adelaide v Brisbane Strikers	6.30pm Sun 12 Apr
South Melbourne v Carlton	7.00pm Sun 12 Apr
Wollongong City v Sydney United	7.00pm Sun 12 Apr
Marconi Fairfield v Melbourne Knights	7.00pm Sat 12 Apr

TABLE AFTER ROUND 24

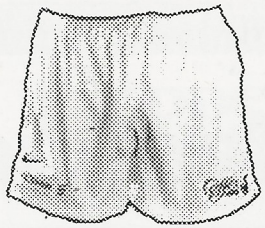
	p.	w.	d.	l.	g+	g-	pt	
Sth Melb	**24**	**13**	**8**	**3**	**53**	**33**	**47**	48
Sydney Utd	**24**	**11**	**8**	**5**	**33**	**22**	**41**	42
Adelaide C	**24**	**12**	**4**	**8**	**42**	**28**	**40**	43
CARLTON	**24**	**10**	**9**	**5**	**35**	**23**	**39**	
Marconi	**24**	**11**	**6**	**7**	**28**	**25**	**39**	40
Wollongong	**24**	**12**	**2**	**10**	**48**	**31**	**38**	41
Melb Knights	24	10	6	8	35	29	36	39
UTS Olympic	24	10	4	10	34	39	34	–
Perth	24	9	6	9	33	38	33	–
Adelaide Sh	24	9	4	11	29	34	31	–
Gippsland	24	7	7	10	26	32	28	–
Brisbane	24	6	4	14	22	38	22	–
Newcastle	24	3	8	13	26	47	17	–
Canberra	24	3	8	13	27	52	17	–

TOP SCORERS AFTER ROUND 24:

18	Damian Mori (Adelaide City)
13	Pablo Cardozo (Adel Sharks)
12	Scott Chipperfield (Wollongong)
12	Norman Tome (UTS Olympic)
11	Tom Pondeljak (Melb Knights)
10	Paul Trimboli (Sth Melb)

STATISTICS AFTER ROUND 24:

Total goals: 475
Average per match: 2.80



CARLTON SHORTS

Congratulations to Vince Grella and Simon Colosimo on their tremendous performances with the Olyroo side which recently defeated the Brazilian Olympic side in a three match series.Next week Simon and Vince will be joined by fellow Carlton teammate Marco Bresciano for a training camp for the Young Socceroos. Well done to all three!

Check out the Carlton internet site in the coming days with some great new innovations set to be introduced. Among these is a penalty shootout game and an NSL team of the year competition. All this plus great profiles, latest news and much more.

The next issue of the Carlton Soccer Club magazine is due for release in the coming weeks so do yourself a favour and order a subscription to ensure you get your copy delivered at home.

Don't forget the VERY big clash next week when Carlton travels to the Bob Jane Stadium to meet the minor premiers South Melbourne. I urge all Carlton supporters to come out for this clash and support our boys as they do battle in the true derby clash of Melbourne.

Today's ballboys are from the Essendon Royals Soccer Club, also great supporters of the Carlton Soccer Club.

THANKYOU TO OUR FEEDER CLUBS

Carlton takes this opportunity to thank all of the clubs associated in the inaugural Carlton Soccer Club feeder system. With so many talented juniors coming up through the ranks the future looks bright for Carlton and these clubs in the coming years. The feeder clubs and associations (with contact details) are:

Albury Wodonga Soccer Ass	John Nemeth 060414779
Berwick City SC	Andy McLean 0412 423 071
Brunswick Zebras SC	Vito Garra 0412 319 453
Doncaster Rovers SC	Edward Sewards 0411 698 871
Frankston Strikers SC	Michael Oakley 9883 4302
Keilor Park SC	Paul Barbuto 0419 339 112
Meadow Park SC	Matthew Donato 0418 323 037
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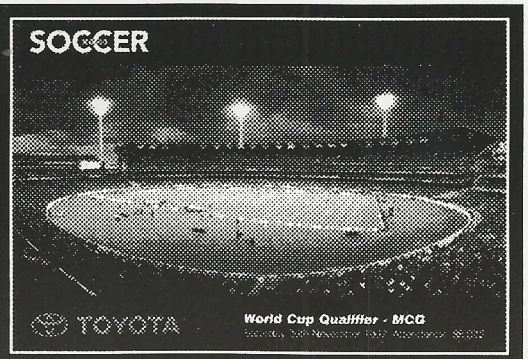
Peninsula Junior SC	Tony Barbour 03 59796414
Sandringham Junior SC	David Morgan 0418 311 355
Sunshine Heights SC	Jim Gero 0411 657 521
Western Victoria Soccer Ass	Joe Cappadona 0419 007 354

WIN WIN WIN

This tremendous poster commemorates the magic moment when the MCG came alive to 85,000 soccer fans and millions watching all over the world.

We have three block-mounted posters to give away tonight courtesy of SOCCER AUSTRALIA MAGAZINE.

All you need to do is cut out this token and send it to us in an envelope with your name, contact details and address. Winners will be announced in the next match program for the clash against Gippsland Falcons.



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26 Vlado Mirkovic

22 Alex Josifovski

25 Adrian Cervinski

Academy News

The Carlton Academy side is set to finish the home and away season in second place, earning the double-chance in the finals play-offs.

Victory in the remaining two fixtures will see the Academy on equal points with the Melbourne Knights (that is if the Knights win their last match) however the Knights have a +22 goal difference over the Carlton side.

We wish the Carlton Academy all the best as they head for finals glory.

The finals will be played in the following manner:

1st v. 2nd
winner of 1st v. 2nd to Southern Division Grand Final

3rd v. 4th
loser goes out, winner plays loser of 1st v. 2nd in Preliminary Final

Preliminary Final: loser out, winner goes to Grand Final

Southern Division Grand Final (champions plays winners of Adelaide City/Adelaide Sharks)

National Youth League Grand Final
Winners of Northern Division v. Winners of Southern Division (played as curtain-raiser to Ericsson Cup Grand Final)

	P.	W.	D.	L.	G+	G-	Pts
Melb Knights	19	17	0	2	82	23	51
CARLTON	18	16	0	2	47	10	48
Gipp Falcons	18	13	2	3	44	18	41
Bulleen Inter	19	10	2	7	33	26	32
VIS	18	9	3	6	42	21	30
Bentleigh	19	8	2	9	28	34	26
Heidelberg	18	6	2	10	25	50	20
South Melbourne	19	5	3	11	37	34	18
Albury Wod.	19	5	1	13	26	36	16
Altona Magic	19	3	2	14	21	71	11
South Rockets	18	1	1	16	13	75	4

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GOALS ARE WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT!

by Tony Ising

What a spectacular weekend in Australian soccer! I've always asserted that you can judge the quality of a league by the quality of its goals. Judging by the amazing strikes on goal last weekend - and throughout the current Ericsson Cup season - Australian soccer ranks right up there with the best in the world.

South Korean import Kim got the ball rolling when he scored a blinder for Marconi against Adelaide City from 25 metres out. One of a new breed of defenders, Kim is never frightened to venture forward to set up scoring opportunities for his team mates. This time, however, he took it upon himself to demonstrate his own power from long range.

Anyone who ventured to Bob Jane Stadium on Sunday night witnessed two of the most spectacular goals ever scored at Lakeside. Firstly, Con Boutsianis cracked a 25-30 metre free kick into the top right corner which no goalkeeper in the world could have stopped. Secondly, a rare long range effort by New Zealand international Vaughan Coveny brought the house down after a splendid pass from gifted playmaker Paul Trimboli.

To really put the icing on the cake, our own John Markovski humiliated the Adelaide Sharks goalkeeper with an audacious chip to claim the Goal of the Week title. Rarely has an exhibition of such arrogance and skill been seen in this country at any level of the game. Quite simply, Markovski's goal was pure genius.

Add to these goals the amazing Nick Meredith goal against Carlton at Optus Oval, Abaas Saad's spectacular scissor kick, Bill Damianos' screamer against the Melbourne Knights in the first round, and Tom Pondeljak's sizzling volley from outside the box at Knights Stadium, and you've got a highlights list that can compete with any league in the world.

Of course, who could ever forget Simon Colosimo's magical solo effort against South Melbourne at Optus Oval earlier this year? The judges of this year's Goal of the Year award are surely going to have headaches making their decision. But what a wonderful headache to have!

CARLTON HAT TRICK PROMOTION

The stakes have been raised in the Carlton Hat Trick promotion launched last week.

Andy Vlahos is obviously really desperate for a slab of beer, after scoring twice against Newcastle at Olympic Park, and scoring two more against Adelaide Sharks last week. Jeez, I was sweating on that third goal Andy, I can tell you!

An new offer has come from Franc Renzi, of FAD Sales and Marketing. He's offered to supply a complete 26 RED outfit for the first Carlton player to score a hat-trick this season. That's a fantastic offer which will hopefully spur the players on to a goal-fest against Gippsland today.Who will it be? Andy Vlahos has the hot form at the moment, but can the likes of Markovski, Marusic, Lapsansky or Cervinski win the prize? One thing's for certain - I wouldn't put any money on Dean Anastasiadis! (Sorry Deano!).

MIRACLE RECOVERY

Hot off the press is a rumour that South Melbourne's Bill Damianos is being transferred to Leeds United. These rumours were sparked after Damianos miraculously recovered from a "major" knock to the ankle in the third match in the Olyroos series against Brazil to front up for South Melbourne against Perth Glory on the weekend.

Maybe Damianos just uses the same physio as Harry Kewell. George Graham is said to be so delighted, he's offered Angie Postecoglou an assistant coaching job as well.

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Remember when that guy was lining up a PENALTY KICK, and you were thinking, MISS, MISS,

MISS? And then he kicked and he Missed.

So you start thinking "maybe that happened because of ME.

Maybe if I think hard enough, CHEER, no SCREAM HARD enough, this game will be ours."

Well, we didn't want to be the ones to break this to you, but see that guy sitting opposite you? Yeah, the one holding the 'Coke', cheering for the other side. Guess what? He's thinking the SAME THING you are.

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ERICSSON

Carlton SC

1ST: 7:31
2ND 8:31

Coach: Eddie Krncevic
Captain: Sean Douglas

	y/c	r/c	goals	substitute off:	replaced by:
1. Dean Anastasiadis (vc)					
2. Robert Trajkovski					
3. Marcus Stergiopoulos					
5. Sean Douglas (C)					
6. Con Anthopoulos					
7. Kresimir Marusic					
10. Lubo Lapsansky				68	BRESCIANO.
11. Andrew Vlahos			26, 70, 90 pen.		
12. Simon Colosimo					
13. Vince Grella	23 FOUL ON 19			54	ATKINSON
14. John Markovski				80	A. CERVINSKI.
15. David Cervinski					
17. Mark Atkinson					
18. David Della Rocca	40 TFB				
19. Pece Siveski					
20. Adrian Cagalj					
22. Alex Josifovski					
23. Marco Bresciano			76		
26. Vladislav Mirkovic					
24. Cameron Pino					
25. Adrian Cervinski					

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Gippsland Falcons

Coach: Frank Arok
Captain: Jim Kourtis

	y/c	r/c	goals	substitute off:	replaced by:
1. Jim Kourtis (C)					
2. Clayton Bell					
3. Claudio Canosa					
4. Manny Gotis					
5. Tony Sekulic					
6. Nick Palamaras					
7. Doug Marcina				71	DI IORIO
8. Nick Tsaltas					
9. Mark Foy					
10. Archie Thompson	27			77	NO. 22
11. Brian MacNicol					
12. Joe Tricarico					
13. John Hutchinson					
14. Peter Di Iorio					
15. Levant Osman	10 DISS.	2ND YELLOW FOUL ON 7			
16. Paul Byrne					
17. Willie Hastie	44				
18. Bill Mitroulas					
19. Hugo Gimenez					
20. Bojo Jeudjevic					

22 LUKE CHANEY

82
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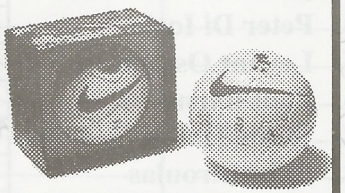

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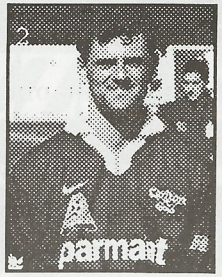
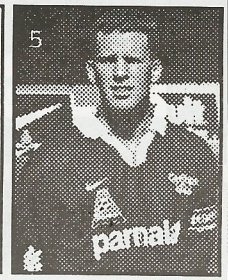


Robert Trajkovski

Marcus Stergiopoulos

Marco Bresciano



Sean Douglas (c)

Con Anthopoulos

Kresimir Marusic

Lubo Lapsansky

Andy Vlahos

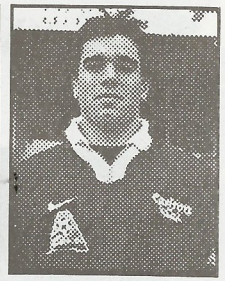
Simon Colosimo

Vince Grella

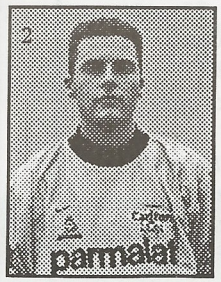
John Markovski

David Cervinski

Mark Atkinson



David Della Rocca



Adrian Cagalj

Eddie Krncevic

Photos unavailable at time of printing:

22	Alex Josifovski
24	Cameron Pino
26	Vladislav Mirkovic

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"HAIL HAIL THE BLUES"

as sung by The Music Men

HAIL HAIL THE BLUES ARE HERE
CARLTON FOREVER, CARLTON FOREVER
HAIL HAIL THE BLUES ARE HERE
CARLTON ARE THE CHAMPIONS!
OH IT'S A GRAND OLD TEAM TO PLAY FOR
OH IT'S A GRAND OLD TEAM TO SEE!
AND IF YOU KNOW THE HISTORY
IT'S ENOUGH TO MAKE YOUR HEARTS GO
WHOAAAH

WE DON'T CARE WHAT THE OTHER TEAMS SAY !
WHAT THE HELL DO WE CARE
FOR WE ONLY KNOW
THAT THERE'S GOING TO BE A SHOW
AND THE MIGHTY CARLTON WILL BE THERE !
AND THE MIGHTY CARLTON WILL BE THERE !
COME ON YOU BLUES !
COME ON YOU BLUES !
COME ON YOU BLUES !

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Australians all let us rejoice
For we are young and free,
We've golden soil and wealth for toil
Our home is girt by sea,
Our land abounds with nature's gifts
Of beauty rich and rare,
In history's page let every stage Advance
Australia Fair.
In joyful strains then let us sing,
Advance Australia Fair

Beneath our radiant Southern Cross
We'll toil with hearts and hands,
To make this Commonwealth of ours
Renowned of all the lands,
For those who've come across the seas
We've boundless plains to share,
With courage let us all combine to Advance
Australia Fair.
In joyful strains then let us sing,
Advance Australia Fair

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Tickets: $100-00 per person
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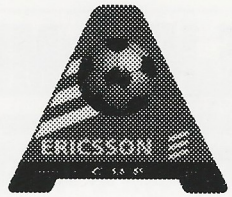
Finals Football ... How it works



The Ericsson Cup Finals Series is structured as follows:

Sunday 19 Apr 1998	• 3rd v 6th (1st leg) • 4th v 5th (1st leg)
Sunday 26 Apri 1998	• 6th v 3rd (2nd leg - loser of series eliminated, winner to minor semi) • 5th v 4th (2nd leg - loser of series eliminated, winner to minor semi) • 1st v 2nd (1st leg)
Sunday 3 Mar 1998	• 2nd v 1st (2nd leg - series winner to Grand Final, loser to Prelim Final) • Minor Semi: winner to Preliminary Final, loser eliminated (this match hosted by team finishing higher on table e.g. if 5th v. 6th, 5th has right to home match)
Sunday 10 May 1998	• Preliminary Final: loser 1st /2nd series v. winner of minor semi (this match is hosted by
Sunday 17 May 1998	• Grand Final

To remember:
The top two teams at the end of the home and away season will get one week break before playing in finals.

The winner of the 1st v. 2nd series will go directly to Grand Final and will host it.

The last time there was an all-Melbourne Grand final was in 1991 when South Melbourne defeated the Melbourne Knights after a penalty shootout at Olympic Park.

PATRONS PLEASE NOTE THAT

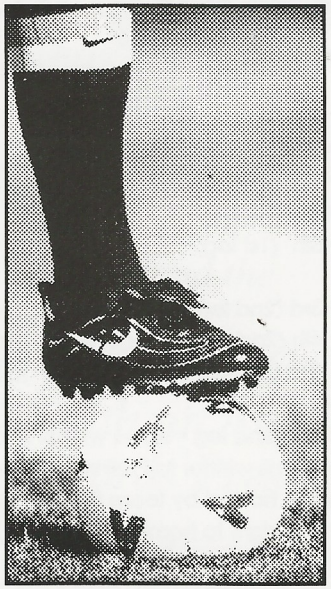
(a) entry inside the perimeter fence of the playing area is prohibited at all times and offenders will be prosecuted.
(b) all spectators are requested to vacate the ground within 15 minutes of the end of the final game.
(c) police may be requested to remove any unauthorised persons who remain after the stipulated time.
(d) the setting alight of, or the igniting or discharging of any type of object, including fireworks, signal or smoke flares, is strictly prohibited.

OFFENDERS WILL BE ARRESTED & CHARGED

Media Release: Monday, 30 March 1998

THE NIKE MERCURIAL: SPEED THRILLS!

Speed thrills! In modern day soccer the difference between glory and failure may hinge on a striker's ability to reach the ball a split-second before his opponent and plant the ball in the back of the net.



Players like Ronaldo use their simmering pace to break defenders hearts. You will see it on the fields of France this summer as Brasil seek to hold onto their World Champions' crown.

The last thing a player like Ronaldo needs is a heavy boot weighing him down as he tries to cut, turn or accelerate to leave a defender standing. So the Brasilian ace asked NIKE to make him the lightest boot they could - a sprint spike for soccer players!

We gave him the NIKE Mercurial and now he feels he has the best boot he has ever worn!

Everything about the NIKE Mercurial screams speed, from it's sleek lines to ultra-lightweight upper, and featherweight, flexible outsole.

Local Carlton Soccer Club players, John Markovski (Socceroo) and Simon Colosimo are also wearing the NIKE Mercurial. Wearing the boots for the first time, Colosimo was the stand out player for the Olyroos in the recent series against the Brasil U20 National team. Markovski, is a convert to the Mercurial, after wearing the same boot for the majority of his soccer career.

At 245gms this truly is a shoe for the speed merchant. The upper is not the traditional kangaroo leather that manufacturers have been using for so long, but a microfibre material called KNG-100. KNG-100 (TM) is lighter than natural leather, it retains it's shape better, maintaining a glove-like fit and eliminating stretching, and resists water so the player doesn't feel like he has lead weights around his ankles if the field is wet. Being a microfibre material, KNG-100 is also breathable.

A spray-on PU coating enhances the player's ball-control capabilities. The same material as the coating NIKE uses on its soccer balls, the extra touch it gives on the ball has impressed players of the stature of Ronaldo and Ibrahim Ba of A.C. Milan. The outsole plate, a crucial part of the shoe as it offers the player traction and a sure footing, has been created as light as possible, without sacrificing a single ounce of performance.

Less than half the thickness of a conventional soccer boot plate, the Pebax soft ground plate features a thermoplastic urethane chassis to maintain torsional rigidity, whilst forefoot flex grooves ensure a comfortable ride. The fixed, stainless steel tipped cleats are specifically shaped to provide outstanding grip and traction in slippery conditions so that the player can stop, start and generally mesmerise the opposition without worrying that he is going to lose his footing.

The TPU firm ground outsole is also lighter than on any boot previously manufactured by NIKE. Thirteen anatomically positioned cleats bite into the ground to give unparalleled traction. As in the soft ground version, a midfoot frame provides the necessary torsional rigidity.

Incidentally, during the rigourous testing period of the NIKE Mercurial, Ronaldo suggested an extra 2mm of height on the firm ground cleats might ensure even better traction. He was right. NIKE added the extra height and the result is a shoe Ronaldo himself feels cannot be bettered.

Look out for the NIKE Mercurial this summer, but look out, it may just be a blur, flashing before your eyes.

For further information please contact, NIKE Public Relations Manager, Megan Ryan on 03) 9292 9354.

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Carlton Player of the Year Award

It is too close to call!

Four players are within one point of each other and with two games to go, we may even finish with dual winners of the inaugural Carlton Player of the Year Award.

This being the final home game of the season, the winner of this prestigious award will be announced in the next issue of the Carlton Soccer Club Magazine which is due for release in mid-April.

The excitement is building and with the whole team working extra hard to make the finals, get set for a tremendous finale to the season.

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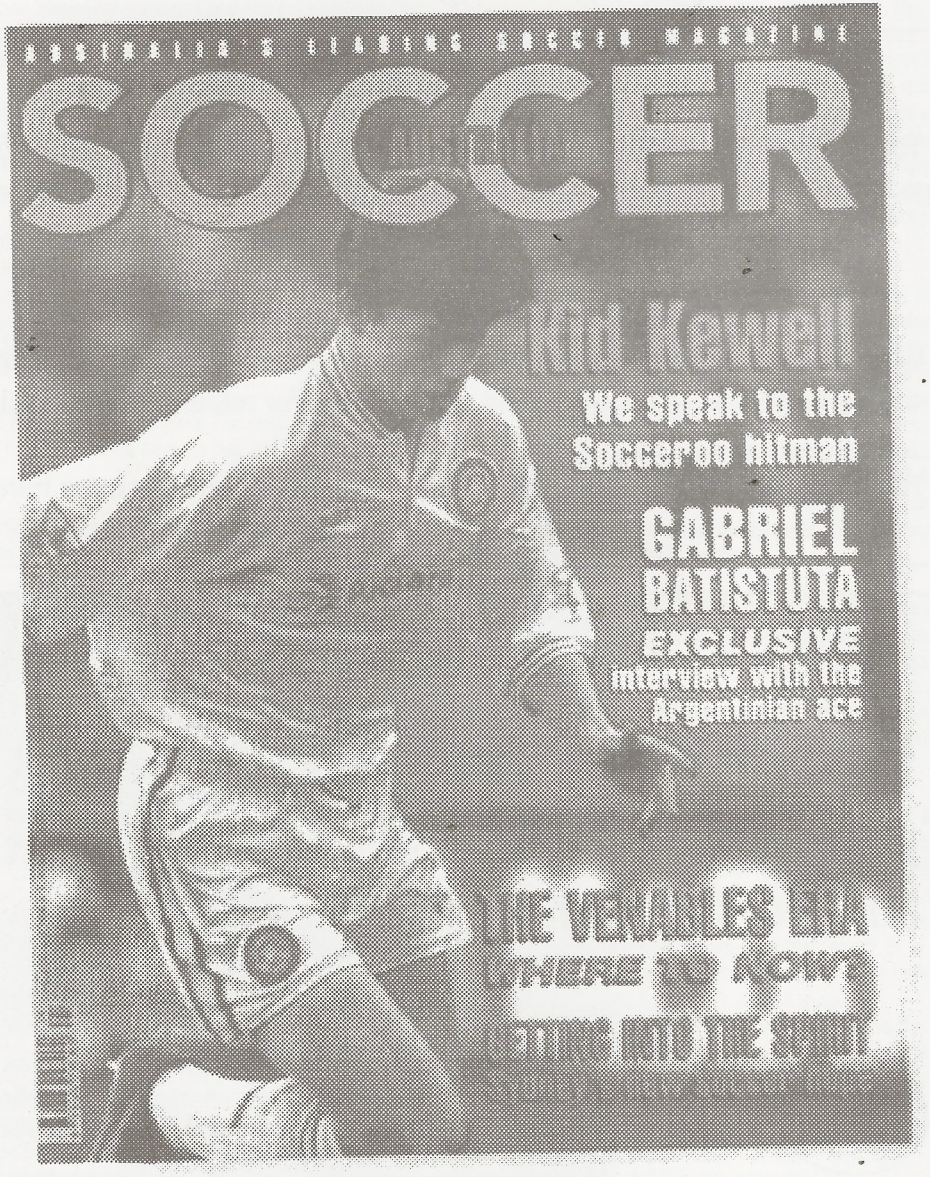
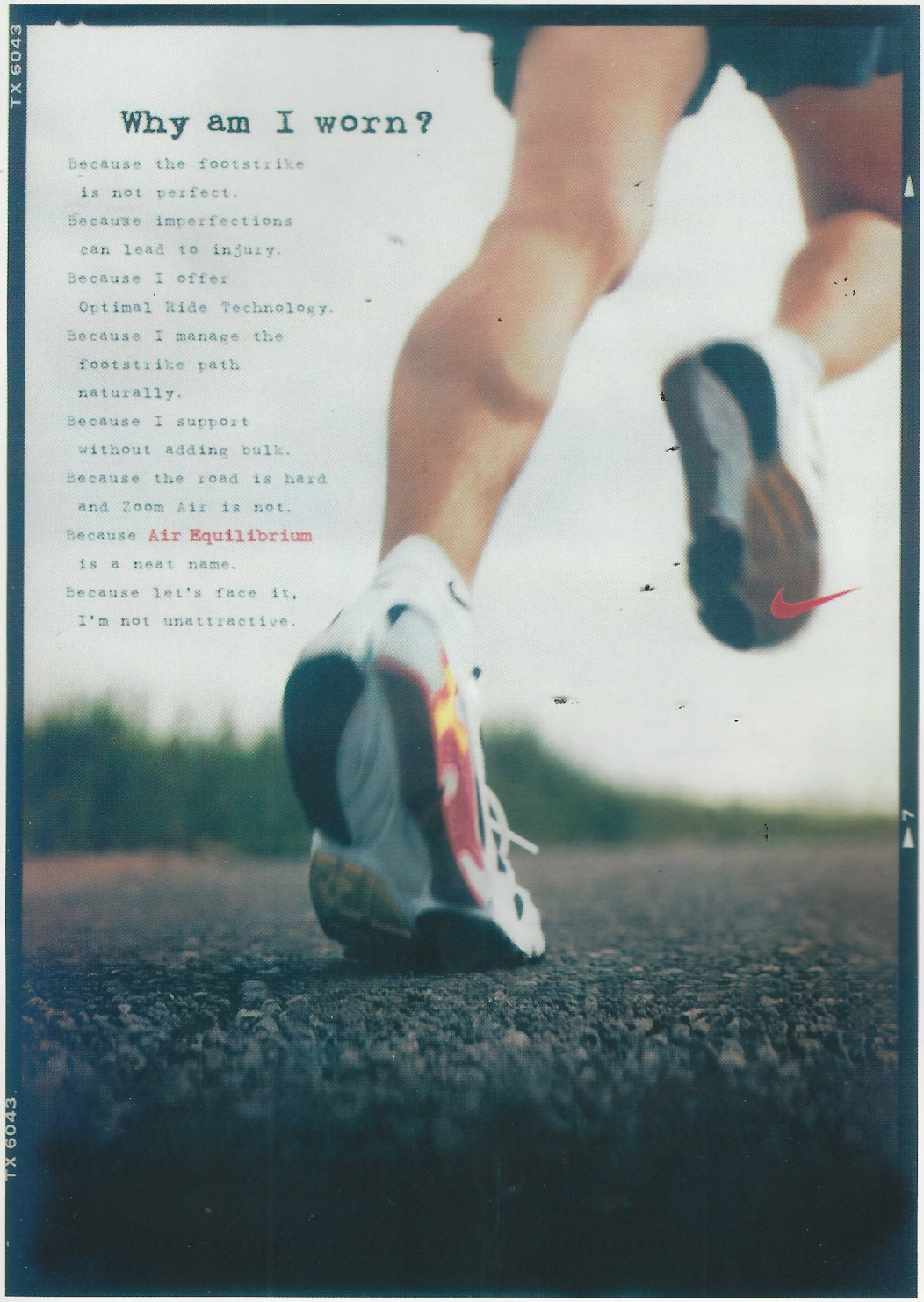
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